

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) Method for the preparation of a biological fertilizer comprising subjecting whey to a first fermentation step, subjecting the fermented whey to a filtration step, and the addition of a cellulose-rich carrier material to the filtered fermented whey.

2. (original) Method according to claim 1, wherein the ratio fermented whey:carrier material is between 10 and 15.

3. (previously presented) Method according to claim 1, further comprising, prior to and/or during the first fermentation of the whey, the inoculation of the whey with a culture of microorganisms.

4. (previously presented) Method according to claim 1, wherein the first fermentation is performed a pH between 5 and 7, preferably at a pH between 4 and 4.5.

5. (canceled)

6. (previously presented) Method according to claim 1, further comprising, after the addition of the carrier material, a second fermentation of step.

7. (previously presented) Method according to claim 1,

further comprising the addition of lime.

8. (previously presented) Method according to claim 1, wherein the carrier material is a gum resin-poor carrier material.

9. (canceled)

10. (previously presented) Method according to claim 1, wherein the carrier material is selected from the group consisting of saw dust, beech saw dust, oak saw dust, dried nettle, and combinations thereof.

11. (previously presented) Method according to claim 1, further comprising the addition of trace elements, nutrients, minerals, growth hormones, stabilizers, organic compounds, and/or antibiotics.

12. (previously presented) Method according to claim 1 wherein the biological fertilizer is in a form selected from the group consisting of a powder, granules, a suspension, a dispersion, fibrous matter, a solution, a mixture, and combinations thereof.

13. (previously presented) Biological fertilizer obtainable by a method according to claim 1.

14. (previously presented) Fermented whey for the preparation of a biological fertilizer according to claim 13.

15. (original) Composition for biologically fertilizing soil

comprising a biological fertilizer according to claim 13.

16. (currently amended) A method for fertilizing a substrate for plant growth, comprising:

~~Use of applying~~ a biological fertilizer according to claim 13 ~~for fertilization of a~~ to the substrate ~~for plant growth~~.

17. (currently amended) ~~Use~~ A method according to claim 16, wherein the substrate for plant growth is chosen from the group consisting of soil, vermiculite, glass fibers, rockwool, and aquaculture.

18. (currently amended) A method for improving a soil composition and/or soil structure, comprising:

~~Use of applying~~ a biological fertilizer according to claim 13 ~~for improvement of~~ to the soil composition and/or soil structure.

19. (previously presented) Method for fertilizing soil comprising:

application of a biological fertilizer according to claim 13, onto and/or into soil.

20. (previously presented) Use of a composition according to claim 15 for fertilization of a substrate for plant growth.

21. (currently amended) A method for fertilizing a substrate for plant growth, comprising:

~~Use of applying~~ a biological fertilizer according to claim 15 ~~for fertilization of a~~ to the substrate ~~for plant growth~~.

22. (currently amended) Method for fertilizing soil comprising:
 ~~application of~~ applying a composition according to claim 15
onto and/or into soil.